

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 38 of 1882.]

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd September 1882.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Calcutta ...	2,100	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Bhārat Hitaishī"	Burrisal ...	.....
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	600	
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....	15th September 1882.
5	"Jātiya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	.....	12th ditto.
6	"Tripurā Vārtāvaha"	Commillah ...	.....	18th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
7	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Ditto ...	700	18th ditto.
8	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	22nd ditto.
9	"Bangabāsi"	Ditto ...	.....	16th ditto.
10	"Bārtābaha"	Pubna ...	.....
11	"Bhārat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....	16th ditto.
12	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensing ...	671	
13	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	
14	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	15th ditto.
15	"Chāruvārtā"	Sherepore, Mymensing ...	.....	18th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	17th ditto.
17	"Dūt"	Calcutta ...	.....
18	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	22nd ditto.
19	"Grāmavārtā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	.....	16th ditto.
20	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ...	.....	16th ditto.
21	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye... ..	200	20th ditto.
22	"Medinī"	Midnapore ...	.....	18th ditto.
23	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487	8th ditto.
24	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
25	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	18th ditto.
26	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	.....	10th ditto.
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275	15th ditto.
28	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ...	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	250	21st ditto.
30	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah ...	500	17th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	
32	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	.....	18th ditto.
33	"Sudhākar"	Mymensing ...	.....
34	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta ...	4,000	6th ditto.
35	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440	
<i>Daily.</i>				
36	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Calcutta ...	700	15th to 21st September 1882.
37	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	18th to 22nd ditto.
38	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	14th to 22nd ditto.
39	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	18th to 22nd ditto.
40	"Prabhātī"	Ditto ...	.....
41	"Samāchār Sudhābarsan"	Ditto ...	.....
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Urdu Guide"	Ditto ...	365	16th September 1882.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
HINDI.				
Weekly.				
43	"Behár Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	14th September 1882. 18th ditto. 16th ditto.
44	"Bhârat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	
45	"Sâr Sudhânidhi"	Ditto ...	200	
46	"Uchit Baktâ"	Ditto ...	.....
PERSIAK.				
Weekly.				
47	"Jâm-Jahân-numâ"	Ditto ...	250	15th ditto
URDU.				
Weekly.				
48	"Akhhâr-i-Darussaltanat"	Ditto ...	.....
Bi-Weekly.				
49	"Amir-ul-Akhhâr"	Ditto ...	.....
ASSAMESE.				
Monthly.				
50	"Assam Vilâsinî"	Sibsagar ...	.....	Ashâr, 1289 B.S.
URIYA.				
Weekly.				
51	"Utkal Dîpikâ"	Cuttack ...	200	9th September 1882. 3rd ditto. 4th ditto.
52	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	160	
53	"Balasore Samvad Vâhika"	Ditto ...	125	
54	"Purusottam Patrikâ"	Pooree ...	.....
Fortnightly.				
55	"Mayurbhunj Pâkshik Pâtrikâ"	Mayurbhunj ...	.....
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
56	"Kshatriya Patrikâ"	Patna ...	.....

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

THE *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 8th September, received on the 16th idem, contains an eulogistic paragraph on Mr. Bainbridge, the District Judge of Murshidabad. The writer commends the thorough impartiality and courteous demeanour of Mr. Bainbridge, who is exceedingly popular with the inhabitants of this district.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
September 8th, 1882.

2. The *Purra Pratidhwani*, of the 15th September, suggests a reform which it behoves Government to adopt, namely, the making of such arrangements as may enable the public to pay land revenue due to Government at the Post Office instead of as now at the Collectorate. If the proposal were carried out, both Government and the public would be gainers.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI,
September 15th, 1882.

3. A correspondent of the *Grámvártá Prakáshiká*, of the 16th September, writes a long letter in which certain grave charges are brought against Baboo Rakhal Chandra Bose, the Second Munsif of Goalundo. The Baboo is said to be in the habit of coming to Calcutta every Saturday; and to be able to do so on Saturdays he holds his court in the morning, and for one hour only. The work appointed for the day is gone through in an extremely hurried manner. On Saturday, the 2nd September, he was in court only for one hour, but in his diary he put it down as four hours. On other days he wastes much time in idle talk.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
September 16th, 1882.

4. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 17th September, is glad to notice that the Director of Public Instruction is taking steps to ascertain the views of educational authorities on the subject of curtailing the length of the winter vacation in the schools and colleges of Bengal. The public have gradually come to feel that in this country, where the cold season is the proper time for work, a long winter vacation is not at all necessary, nay it is positively injurious. Mr. Croft has therefore proposed certain changes in the existing practice. The Editor, however, does not see that, if the duration of holidays is to be reduced, there should be any distinction made between schools and colleges. They should be placed on the same footing, another observation made by the writer is that the University examinations should be held just before the Durga Puja holidays, and a long vacation should follow—that is, there should be one month's vacation on the occasion of that festival; one month's vacation in the hot season, and fifteen days in all for the minor festivals. On this point the proposals made by Mr. Croft require modification.

DACCA PRAKASH,
September 17th, 1882.

5. The *Sádháraní*, of the 17th September, remarks that the railway lines passing through villages situated on the banks of the Hooghly are in a manner the cause of the malarious fever which has for years past decimated the population of Bengal. In constructing these lines, no care was taken to leave the natural drainage of the country perfectly unobstructed. The result of this has been that collections of water are formed in villages and gradually generate malaria. Government should require Railway Companies to erect a sufficiently large number of culverts across these lines for the free passage of water, while in the case of new lines, before sanctioning them, steps should be taken to secure a proper drainage of the tracts which might be thereby affected.

SADHARANI,
September 17th, 1882.

6. The same paper notices with exceeding gratification the proposals which have been made by the Government of India with a view to secure a wider publicity for the Acts and Bills of the Indian Legislative Council than is at present the case.

SADHARANI

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
September 18th, 1882.

7. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 18th September, is glad to notice that Government is desirous of giving increased publicity to the Acts and Bills of the Indian Legislative Council, and remarks, in reference to the proposals recently made by Government in this connection, that all native newspapers should be placed on the same footing as regards the supply of information regarding legislative measures.

SOM PRAKASH,
September 18th, 1882.

8. A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh*, of the 18th September, in dwelling upon the decline of Bengal villages, refers to the deterioration in the physique of Bengalis. This has been brought about by the operation of injudicious social laws, by the poverty of the people, and lastly by the action of Government. As regards the last-mentioned point, Government is asked to allow Bengalis to enter the army, and the Education Commission to indicate a method whereby the pupils in the schools of Bengal may be enabled to receive a thorough gymnastic training.

SOM PRAKASH.

9. We extract the following observations from an article in the same paper headed the "Appointment of clerks to the India Secretariat." There can be no doubt that if the rules recently prescribed by Government for the examination of candidates for employment as clerks in the offices of the India Secretariat be duly carried out, there will be gradually an improvement in the work of those offices. Hitherto patronage has been made to do duty for merit and ability; a note of recommendation for learning and intelligence; and the use of a hat and a coat and the Bible together with the possession of a light complexion has been considered as affording the only claim to high appointment. Another qualification that has been insisted upon on the part of candidates is the power of making profound *salaams* to their Civilian superiors, and addressing them in language of adulation. It has thus happened that able men have become rare in Government offices. If the new rules are carried into effect, there will be no room for regret. The rules, however, while they evince a singular liberality on the one hand, would seem, on the other, to cover some sinister purpose. That sworn enemy of educated Bengal, the *Englishman* newspaper, has let the cat out of the bag. It is always difficult for a person to acquire proficiency in a foreign language. The Bengali written by Englishmen, the interpretations of Sanskrit writings gives by even such eminent scholars as Max Müller, Goldstucker and others always furnish matter for amusement. Similarly, the English written by Bengalis can never be free from errors. In this respect Eurasians and East Indians enjoy a superiority to Bengalis. This circumstance, coupled with the fact that the number of marks allotted for English composition is higher than that fixed for proficiency in mathematics and other subjects in which natives readily acquire proficiency has been exceedingly gratifying to the *Englishman* newspaper, which thanks Government for thus facilitating the preferment of Eurasians in Government offices. Now the people of India have seen through the present measure. Already in the more important public offices the higher appointments are held by Europeans and Eurasians, but lest this should bring unpopularity on Government, this scheme of a competitive examination has been hit upon. The consequences, however, will be similar to those which have followed from the Civil Service examination.

SOM PRAKASH.

10. The same paper condemns the perfect indifference shewn by the authorities of the East Indian Railway to the convenience of native passengers who travel in third class carriages. It is these persons who mainly contribute to swell the railway receipts, but they are invariably neglected. The Editor protests against the rule which will have effect from 1st October next laying down

that henceforth the mail train will be composed exclusively of 1st and 2nd class carriages, and that only a few 3rd class carriages will be attached thereto for the use of servants, &c. This order will be productive of great inconvenience to native passengers.

11. We extract the following observations from an article in the same paper:—The debate on the Indian Budget took place in the House of Commons on the 15th August. Lord Hartington exhibited the picture of Indian finance which had been painted by the Finance Minister, Major Baring. The Secretary of State expressed his regret that he was not able to present the budget to the House earlier. Now this is really to be wondered at. Every year the Secretary of State makes some such apology, but the budget is never presented in good time. What is the reason of this? Is it a fear of embarrassment which is likely to be caused by interpellations from different quarters? Lord Hartington has himself admitted that the English public does not take much interest in this dry subject. This clearly shows the concern displayed by England in the affairs of India. But while there is this perfect indifference on the part of the English nation to matters affecting the interests of the people of India, that nation would go mad if there was a rebellion in this country. In that case Englishmen, young and old alike, would demand the indiscriminate execution of the rebels without any form of trial, the destruction of villages by fire, and the devastation of India, without, however, uttering a word as to the necessity of enquiring into the causes of the rebellion.

SOM PRASAD,
September 18th, 1882.

12. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 18th September, contains two articles on the present state of the indigo trade. The writer dwells upon the importance of the indigo industry and the necessity of fostering it. The question, however, is beset with difficulties which require the attention of Government. In spite of its importance, the industry is looked upon with disfavour by the people owing to the oppressions which are committed by those engaged in it. The task therefore that lies before Government is to popularize the industry. Now the reason why the indigo-planters resort so largely to acts of oppression is that the industry brings only moderate and not enormous profits. In fact the tea industry enjoys superiority in that respect. The tea-planters command a more copious supply of labour and land than those who are engaged in the manufacture of indigo. The latter require, for the successful carrying on of their business, only the best land, and have to deal with peasants who have a knowledge of their rights. They have thus to incur a larger outlay than the tea-planters. The writer then proceeds to refer to the different systems under which indigo concerns are managed in this country, and observes that, under each and all of them, there is oppression committed on the cultivators. It therefore behoves the indigo-planters to carry on the cultivation of indigo under a direct system, and not to expect more than moderate profits. They should employ labourers and give them reasonable wages, while exacting from them a reasonable amount of work. One matter, however, should receive their careful consideration, namely, they should reduce their costly establishment of clubmen and high-handed gomastahs, and should cease to constantly entertain Magisterial and Police officers. In fact the necessity for all these accessories would be obviated if indigo-planters but chose to carry on their operations as honest and conscientious traders. It is to be hoped the Lieutenant-Governor will give the subject his best attention.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
September 18th, 1882.

13. The same paper remarks that every year an enormous amount of money is drawn by the Secretary of State from India on account of what are

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

The "Home charges."

known as the "Home charges." There is no proper account kept of these charges—the people of India who pay them are not told how they are incurred. Even the Governor-General has no right to interfere therein, nor is he ever consulted regarding them. The utmost that is done in this direction is the submission, as a matter of form, of an account every year to Parliament, which receives attention only from a few Irish members or retired Indian officers who are not generally popular with the House. The Editor then proceeds to comment upon the unsatisfactory manner in which the accounts referred to are kept, and remarks that they might well be discontinued, inasmuch as they are far from convincing.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
September 18th, 1882.

14. The same paper remarks, in reference to the article on Indian Mussulmans in the August number of the *Nineteenth Century* by Moulvie Amir Ali, that

the writer has not adopted the proper course in treating of his subject. Instead of pointing out the true causes of the decadence of Indian Mussulmans, he has needlessly expatiated on the political supremacy enjoyed by that people at one time in India, and sought to make out that at present the Hindoos enjoy a larger share of public patronage than Mahomedans. The last statement, however, is not founded on fact.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

15. The same paper notices with exceeding gratification that the Government of India has at length directed its attention to the necessity of adopting

Publication of Bills and Acts. measures for giving increased publicity to the work of the Indian Legislative Council. The proposals made in this connection are such as will entitle Government to the gratitude of the public. The writer, however, does not see why Select Committees should be vested with discretion in the matter of ordering translations of amended Bills to be published. This power may be abused by them. Even if the publication in full of such translations be objected to on the score of cost, it will be well if Editors of newspapers are supplied with information as to the amendments proposed to be made in a Bill by any Select Committee. The Editor further confesses his inability to understand why Government should be so unwilling to fix the minimum length of time before the expiry of which no Bill shall be passed into law.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
September 18th, 1882.

16. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 18th September, remarks, in reference to the rules recently made by Government for the examination of candi-

dates for employment as clerks in the offices of the India Secretariat, that they should be extended to all public offices. At present Eurasians and East Indians are unduly favoured in the matter of these appointments. To inspire confidence in the proposed examinations, it is necessary that examiners should not be selected exclusively from among Europeans.

CHARU VARTA,
September 18th, 1882.

17. The *Charu Vartá*, of the 18th September, remarks that Lord Ripon's liberal policy teaches the following

truths which should be laid to heart by narrow-minded Anglo-Indian officials:—(1) If political rights are conferred upon the people of India to any very considerable extent, the result will be a strengthening of the foundations of the British empire in this country. A rigorous system of administration may silence the people, but it cannot satisfy them. (2) Natives are not inert masses, but sentient beings who understand their own interests and are grateful to their benefactors. (3) The Viceroy should rule India in accordance with liberal principles. (4) Government should develop the natural resources of India.

CHARU VARTA.

18. The same paper does not see in what respect Mymensingh can be considered inferior to the majority of the other districts in Bengal. In territorial extent, population, number of wealthy landlords, spread of education, and even

trade, Mymensingh takes a high place among them. Her only want is a railway line connecting her with Dacca, and when that becomes an accomplished fact, her trade will receive an impetus which can not but accelerate her progress.

19. The same paper cordially approves of the orders recently passed by the Government of India relating to the change of district officers.

CHARU VARTA,
September 18th, 1882.

20. The same paper thanks Lord Ripon for his recent proposals to give increased publicity to the work of the Indian Legislative Council. The writer,

CHARU VARTA.

however, would ask that the papers to be circulated should be supplied to all native papers, and not to those only that might be named by the Local Governments. A further suggestion is made that translations of all Bills amended to any considerable extent by Select Committees should always be published.

21. The *Mediní*, of the 18th September, dwells in an article upon the difficulties that threaten the Editor. This journal, it is remarked, has by its fearless criticism of the acts of the local officials of Midnapore incurred their displeasure. They have therefore long sought an opportunity of getting him into trouble, and have at last found one. A case has been brought before the Joint-Magistrate of Midnapore in which the Editor is charged with having made a false statement on oath.

MEDINI,
September 18th, 1882.

22. The *Tripurá Vártavaha*, of the 18th September, notices with surprise that Mr. Campbell, the District Judge of Furreedpore, is in the habit of deputing his sheristadar and accountant for the purpose of inspecting the munsif courts subordinate to him, and that he allows his sheristadar to take down the depositions of witnesses in the certificate and other *ex parte* cases.

TRIPURÁ VARTAVAHA,
September 18th, 1882.

23. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 20th September, is exceedingly gratified to notice the proposals which have been made by Government with a view to give an increased publicity to the work of the Legislative Councils in India, and remarks that the present action of Government is doubtless intended to form a part of Lord Ripon's scheme of local self-government.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
September 20th, 1882.

24. The *Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 20th September, contains an article in which the Editor condemns the action of Government in advertising a new loan. This practice of continually increasing the public debt is extremely objectionable. While on the one hand Government is paying off one loan, it is, on the other, contracting another. It is filling up one tank and at the same time excavating another. The people are learning the practice from Government. It is clear that in a few years, in consequence of these loans, the people will have left no money in their hands.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
September 20th, 1882.

25. The *Purusottum Patriká*, of the 4th September, states that it has received a letter from the inhabitants of Bolong, a village in the Pooree district, within the jurisdiction of the Piplee Police station, in which the writer complains of the immoral character of the master of the local school. The Deputy Inspector and the Sub-Inspector are asked to enquire.

PURUSOTTUM
PATRIKA,
September 4th, 1882.

26. The *Utkal Durpana*, of the 3rd September, has come to learn that passengers by the steamer *Bassein* from Calcutta to Balasore, when well out at sea, are subjected to great loss and inconvenience by the khalassees levying by force a charge for baggage. It is the duty of the Captain to see to this.

UTKAL DURPANA,
September 3rd, 1882.

UTKAL DURPANA,
September 3rd, 1882.

27. The same paper publishes Arabi Pasha's letter to Mr. Gladstone, and says that, having read it, no one can believe that Arabi is an unlettered or irreligious man.

Arabi Pasha.

UTKAL DURPANA.

28. The same paper says that Major Baring's policy of free trade is now with its gradual development beginning to bear sweet fruit. At first it was thought that the policy would prove detrimental to Indian trade and unduly favourable to English trade; but just the opposite has been the effect. The removal of the protection policy has tended to make India independent of England as regards articles imported therefrom. At the same time many measures beneficial to the children of the soil have been announced, and many more are expected. On the other hand, Government is encouraging the people to take a part in the politics of the country by its scheme of local self-government, which has caused the names of Lord Ripon and Major Baring to resound from shore to shore, from the mountain to the cape.

Free trade and local self-government.

These and similar measures are sufficient to give the native public an idea of the spirit which now actuates the Government of India. The benevolent measures of the present administration are calculated to develop in the native community a spirit of self-help, and to call into play their aptitude for politics and commerce. It is high time for them to come forward and avail themselves of the benefits thus offered. Will not Orissa bestir herself a little with such prospects before her? It is to be hoped that the inhabitants of Balasore will take the lead in commercial matters, while those of Cuttack will take a prominent part in political affairs.

UTKAL DURPANA.

29. The same paper remarks that the question of local self-government has become extremely disagreeable to many Civilian Magistrates. With a few honourable

Local self-government.

exceptions, they are trying with their head and heart to oppose the appointment of non-official Chairmen. It is to be regretted that most of them are pulling the strings from behind, and by means of *protegés* trying to convince the people that Magisterial officers are emblems of perfection, and that the people will commit a grievous blunder if they select any non-official member to fill the office of Chairman. They even represent that a Committee not presided over by a Magistrate is like a marriage party without the bridegroom, and that non-official Chairmen will fail to command the respect of the people. Some have even gone the length of setting one race against another. As an illustration of this statement, the Editor re-publishes a passage from the *Amrita Bazar Patriká* newspaper, and proceeds to ask—Why are the Magistrates so unwilling to allow non-officials to fill positions which they themselves now occupy? The loss of power, if it may be so called, is too paltry a motive to justify them in keeping up the agitation which they are now carrying on through their *protegés*. Such conduct only shows their weakness, while the conduct of their *protegés* is still more contemptible.

It is gratifying to observe, however, that Magistrates in Orissa are all men of a different stamp.

UTKAL DURPANA.

30. The Cuttack correspondent of the same paper, in referring to the proceedings of the Orissa Association, says, among other things, that "from this you will be able to judge as to what is being done in

Proceedings of the Orissa Association.

Cuttack. Do not believe the telegrams that are being sent to the Calcutta papers. They are extremely misleading, inasmuch as they speak of things half of which do not really exist."

UTKAL DIPIKA,
September 9th, 1882.

31. The *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 9th September, gives a quotation from the *Hindu Patriot* relating to the Oriya Translatorship and Moyurbhunj Managership, and remarks:—This is very true. We have said what we had to say in regard to the Translatorship. As to the Moyurbhunj Managership until the post is conferred upon any one, we refrain from making any comments. Nevertheless we shall always maintain that this post should be given to an experienced native. It is a matter of regret that in making appointments, Mr. Smith does not evince much judgment.

32. The same paper says:—In our last issue we informed our readers that the English were victorious in Egypt. Egyptian affairs. Later telegrams, however, brought the intelligence that it was not a real victory, but rather a defeat. It will be seen that Arabi's troops are not incapable. They are wonderfully brave and expect a fighting. The English General not being able to estimate aright their real strength, and trusting too much to his own prestige, brought upon himself this disaster. No news has since been received from the seat of war, nor is the reason of this known. That the English troops, after having been thus defeated, should all this time remain inactive, is not probable.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

33. The same paper says:—This week there has been great noise in this town in consequence of the Gopal Jee Math lawsuit. The case came before the Joint-Magistrate last Tuesday. An idea that the police officials had without cause insulted the Hindu religion greatly distressed the inhabitants of this town. The court was crowded. Having occupied three days in receiving the evidence, the Magistrate on the third day dismissed one of the defendants, and on the fourth or last day dismissed the other defendants under section 215 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

The Editor reserves his comments on the judgment, and contents himself with the remark that this order fell like a thunderbolt on the Hindu community. One or two days after the occurrence which led to the above case, a statement appeared in the *Englishman* newspaper. The Commissioner having seen this requested the Magistrate to furnish him with all the particulars. Without waiting for the result of the trial, the Magistrate, Mr. Pawsey, wrote to the Commissioner to the effect that what had appeared in the *Englishman* was without foundation and was to be attributed to the malice of the many enemies of the Inspector, Baboo Sham Sunder. The distress of the people on hearing of Mr. Pawsey's action, which was certainly premature, may well be imagined. When the district Magistrate thus expressed his opinion and the officer who was trying the case forwarded it with his signature, people could easily imagine what the final result of the trial would be. All said in one voice "there is now no means of protecting the Hindu religion." People having seen Mr. Pawsey's procedure for so long a period had come to believe that he was destitute of energy and was credulous. No one, however, expected that he would thus bring disgrace upon the court and wound the feelings of the native public. The Hindus are exceedingly disappointed at this action of the Magistrate. It remains to be seen what action the Commissioner will take on this report.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

34. The same paper gives the particulars of the meeting held on the 6th ultimo, when nearly 1,000 persons were present and Mohunt Raghuo Nandan Ram-anuj Das was in the chair. After some discussion it was unanimously decided that, as regards both the municipality and the local board, the Chairman should be appointed by election.

Poorree self-government meeting.

With regard to local boards, the meeting decided that such boards should be established at Khoordah, Piplee, Gope, and Pooree. The Pooree local board should be the sudder board exercising control over all the other boards. Its members should be elected and each local board within the district should send one representative to this sudder board. Pandits, vakeels, mooktears, graduates of universities, and those who have passed the minor or vernacular scholarship examination as well as those who pay road cess amounting to Rs. 5, or license-tax of Rs. 10 a year, and those whose annual income is Rs. 200, will be entitled to elect members. While pandits, vakeels, mooktears, graduates of universities, those who pay road cess amounting to Rs. 10, or license-tax of Rs. 20, and those whose income is Rs. 400 a year, may be elected as members.

With regard to the Municipal Board, it has been decided that the said board should be established at Pooree, and that the town be divided into six wards. The board should consist of 24 Municipal Commissioners, four being elected from each ward. Among the tax-payers pandits, vakeels, mooktears, graduates of universities, and those who have passed the minor and vernacular scholarship examination, as well as those who pay a tax of not less than Rs. 2 a year, will be entitled to elect members. And persons belonging to classes mentioned above, paying a tax of not less than Rs. 6, or having an income of Rs. 600 a year, will be eligible for membership.

The meeting expressed its opinion in favour of the Government proposal to create a Central Committee to have the control of the municipal and local boards.

As for the efficient management of the duties to be entrusted to these boards, large sums of money would doubtless be required: the meeting suggested that the receipts of the road cess, license tax, ferries, pounds, and lodging-house tax, as well as the allotments for the Jagannath road, together with such grants from provincial revenues as Government might make, should be placed at the disposal of the boards.

ASSAM BILASINI,
ANUR, 1289 B.S.

35. The *Assam Bilasini* for *Ashar* makes the following observations:—

Lord Ripon and Native industries.

Lord Ripon has given many instances of his generous and disinterested policy in his administration of India. He has ruled that the people may be supplied with things prepared in India. This ruling has given an impetus to the industries of this country. Mills and iron-works are being established with a view to the manufacture of useful things; blankets are being prepared for Indian sepoys. Permission was even obtained, it is said, from the Secretary of State for India, to supply European soldiers quartered in India with clothes from Indian mills. India is truly indebted to His Lordship for the encouragement thus given to her arts.

ASSAM BILASINI.

36. The same paper remarks that the condition of the mouzadars of

Mouzadars of Assam.

Assam shows some improvement. Formerly they had to collect revenue and measure lands, undergoing all the inclemencies of the weather. This work is now done by the mandals. The duty of supplying coolies being entirely entrusted to the mouzadars, the poor ryots are made to suffer greatly. Whenever any of the ryots do anything against the mouzadar's wishes, although it be a matter beyond the mouzadar's province, the poor man is sure to be threatened with impressment as a cooly, to say nothing of corporal punishment or fine which he has generally to undergo if he shows obstinacy. Some of the sufferers not being able to stand all these cruelties seek the protection of the law courts, but to no effect. On the contrary, the complainants bring additional misery on themselves. The corrupt but rich mouzadars so manage it, that

the court is not given to hear the aggrieved. Government should attend to the matter.

37. The same paper has come to learn that the Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet, has given a good proof of his "impartiality," by ordering that only Mahomedans are in future to be employed in the police, and that the services of the Hindus in the police are to be dispensed with.

ASSAM BILASINI
ASHAR, 18 29BS.

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Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
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